

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	6688	Agenda Number	49.
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Meeting Date:	May 26, 2011
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with SNF, INC. dba BRAND FX Ft. Worth, TX, for the purchase of one brush truck in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capitol Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Cooperative Purchase.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer, 972-4014
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Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
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MBE / WBE:	This cooperative contract is exempt from the MBE /WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority –Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

This contract is for the purchase of one new brush truck and will be assigned to the Wildland Conservation Division of the Austin Water Utility and will be used for prescribed burns and wildfire response.

This truck will be used to implement prescribed burns on both the Water Quality Protection Lands and the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve. In addition, the truck will be used in partnership with the Austin Fire Department and other local fire departments responding to wildfires. Prescribed burns are carefully planned and controlled fires that take into consideration many factors such as weather conditions, topography, and vegetation type. Prescribed burns are a critical tool used in the protection of the aquifer recharge by restoring native grasslands and for creating and maintaining a habitat for endangered species such as the black-capped vireo.

This truck is built to current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard and is equipped with a foam system, 300-gallon water tank, and assorted firefighting tools, hoses and equipment.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection team and Fleet have worked together to develop a vehicle purchasing process in our progress towards our citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The development of the purchasing criteria incorporates emissions impact, available technologies on the market, physical demands on the vehicle, and service application. These criteria are applied to all vehicles submitted to Fleet for purchase.

The truck is powered with an engine capable of burning biodiesel (B20) fuel. In line with Austin Climate Protection Program goals, B20 provides an approximate 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions versus using gasoline and an approximate 5% reduction versus using petro-diesel.

The vehicle and equipment in this RCA have been recommended for purchase utilizing a process that involves the Fleet Officer, affected Department Directors, and Assistant City Managers (ACMs). ACM approval is required for all new additions to the City's fleet prior to any requests being made to the Purchasing Office.

The Purchasing Office conducted an analysis to determine that the BuyBoard contract was the best value to the City. The SNF, Inc. contract offered the lowest prices and is able to provide vehicles that fully meet the needs of the Austin Water Utility Department. SNF, Inc. is contracted through BuyBoard to supply these types of vehicles to other public entities statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing BuyBoard contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to place the City's vehicles on order.